

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-10 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 SP-02 STR-04

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 EURE-00 /077 W
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P R 192101Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8001

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0027

UNCLAS PARIS 05038

PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR/FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH COOPERATIVES SEEK OIL - FOOD BARTER WITH
U.S.S.R.

1. COOPERATIVES BELONGING TO THE C.F.C.A. (CONFEDERATION FRANCAISE DE LA COOPERATION AGRICOLE) HAVE PROPOSED THE SIGNING OF A LONG-TERM BARTER CONTRACT BETWEEN FRANCE AND THE U.S.S.R. FOR AN UNDETERMINED QUANTITY OF PETROLEUM IN RETURN FOR 1 MILLION MT CEREALS; 200,000 MT POWDERED MILK; 20,000 MT BUTTER; 50,000 MT MEAT (YOUNG BULL MEAT); L MIL-LION HECTOLITERS WINE AND LIQUORS; 20,000 MT APPLES; AND 10,000 MT CHICKEN.

2. THE COOPERATIVES HAVE GIVEN BENOIST AURION AND JACK LEQUERTIER, THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY GENERAL, RESPECT-IVELY, OF C.F.C.A., A MANDATE TO PUSH THE PROJECT TO COM-PLETION. ALL CONCERNED RECOGNIZE THAT THE PROPOSED SALE WOULD FIRST REQUIRE THE APPROVAL OF THE EC AGRICULTURAL AUTHORITIES OF BRUSSELS. THEY APPARENTLY ARE ALSO AWARE OF POTENTIAL OPPOSITION WITHIN THE EC TO RESTITUTION PAY-UNCLASSIFIED

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MENTS WHICH WOULD RESULT IN REPEAT OF THE "CHEAP" BUTTER

SALE MADE TO THE USSR. THIS PROJECT IS VIEWED BY CFCA AS NECESSARY TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF EC EXPORTS AND TO KEEP THE U.S. AND MULTINATIONAL FIRMS FROM DOMINATING AGRICULTURAL TRADE WITH "THIRD COUNTRIES" IN THE EASTERN BLOC AND THE L.D.C. AREA.

3. WE HAVE HAD DIFFICULTY CONFIRMING ABOVE DIRECTLY WITH CFCA OR WITH UNCAC (GRAINS COOPERATIVE) BUT AGMIN OFFICIAL ADVISED US BARTER DEAL HAD NOT PROGRESSED PAST EARLY STAGES AND BRUSSELS AGREEMENT WOULD BE SOUGHT. HE ADDED THAT THIS WAS A PROJECT OF THE COOPERATIVES AND NOT SPECIFICALLY A GOF PROJECT.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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